months with a view to strengthening and streamlining the infrastructure for kerosene distribution and involving the Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats and State Panchayati Raj Institutions in the supervision of PDS kerosene distribution, so as to ensure that entitled beneficiaries actually receive their entitlement and diversion to adulteration and black-marketing is capped, reversed and eventually eliminated. The pilot project is being concurrently evaluated by NCAER and, on the basis of the experience gained, Government will determine the possibility and desirability of extending th Pariyojana to cover all blocks in the country.

Measures to check adulteration are kept under continuous review of the Government.

The State Governments have been requested to provide adequate police protection/security to the OMCs officials as per the requirement, for carrying out inspections.

**Demand for LPG**

2217. SHRI T.T.V DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) used in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the break-up of figures of gas provided through pipeline and cylinder during this period;

(c) the estimated demand of LPG in the next three years; and

(d) the measures taken to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) LPG consumption for the last three years in the country is as under:—

(Figures in TMT)

| Year | Consumption |
|---|---|
| 2002-03 | 8351 |
| 2003-04 | 9305 |
| 2004-05 | 10245 |

(b) The data of LPG supplied through pipelines are not maintained. However, the packed LPG demand met through Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for the last three years is as under:—

| Year | Quantity (in TMT) |
|---|---|
| 2002-03 | 8143 |
| 2003-04 | 9089 |
| 2004-05 | 9938 |

(c) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has not firmed up estimated demand of LPG in next three years. However, the estimated LPG demand for the next two years as per the report of the Working Group on Petroleum & Natural Gas for the Tenth Five Year Plan, is as under:—

| Year | Quantity (in TMT) |
|---|---|
| 2005-06 | 11123 |
| 2006-07 | 11966 |

(d) LPG requirements are met through a combination of domestic production and imports. Research and development efforts are on to enhance LPG production through indigenous sources.

**Tax on Petroleum products**

2218. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the reasons for increase in the prices of petroleum products is too much tax imposed by Government;